



Salt River Vocational Rehabilitation Newsletter

SRVR Staff Attend Consortia of Administrators for Native American Rehabilitation (CANAR) Midyear Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC

SRVR Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, Jennifer Curtis, and Vocational Rehabilitation Manager, Melanie Murray, were two attendees at the Midyear Conference for Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Professionals this May. In addition to over 25 presenters in the field of American Indian Disability, the conference was highlighted by keynote speaker, Gary "Litefoot" Davis, an accomplished actor, businessman, and American Indian Advocate. Litefoot is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. He is well known for his roles in "The Indian in the Cupboard" and "Mortal Kombat Annihilation".

Mr. Davis is the President and CEO of the National Center For American Indian Enterprise Development. His keynote address focused heavily on his true belief that anyone can do anything that he or she is willing to work for. He emphasized that many people in his path discouraged his dreams and goals, and he was happy to prove them wrong. This was an appropriate message for the audience, filled with over 300 professionals who work directly with American Indians with disabilities.

CANAR is the foremost professional membership organization that serves over 85 American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Programs in the United States. SRVR has been a member of CANAR since 2011.



SRVR Congratulates the Class of 2015 from SRHS! Students from the Class of 2015 were amongst the first group of students to participate in the Transition Program—a collaboration of SRVR and SRHS ESS Program.

Located in

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Melanie Murray, VR Manager
Paula Smith, VR Counselor
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**ORIENTATIONS
EVERY OTHER
TUESDAY at
10am
DATES ON
page 2 →**



2015 Orientation Dates

10 AM in TWO WATERS "B105"

July 14	July 28
August 11	August 25
September 8	September 22
October 13	October 27
November 10	November 24
December 8	December 22

After being out of work for nearly 4 years, Victoria Gonzales spent over 2 years participating in the Day Work Program. She worked regularly in Day Work, but continued to aspire to find work in a more stable and consistent work situation, so she could take care of her family. Gonzales, who prides herself as a voice in the Community regarding disabilities, inquired about SRVR after hearing of a friend who had participated successfully in the program. "I didn't want to get help from anyone, I wanted to do it on my own," she explained. She spent the first 3 months of her time with SRVR participating in training and classes geared towards improving interpersonal skills, customer service, professionalism, and work readiness. All of her efforts in the classes and through a mentorship provided by SRVR resulted in her attaining her goal of employment. She gained employment with Casino Arizona in Concierge. While in the Concierge, she was recognized with an award for providing "Legendary Guest Service, a 100% Mystery Shop". She has since moved to the Food and Beverage Department, and is currently participating in the Blackjack classes offered to Community Members who want to work as dealers within the casino. Victoria just passed her seven month anniversary of employment with Casino Arizona. She has coined herself, "The New Victoria", and reports that success in work has helped her in all facets of her life.

Quarterly S.R.V.R. Statistics

Eligible Consumers	32
Active Employment	6
Employed 90 days (Rehabilitated)	6
Participated in Training	4
Participated in Work Experience within Community	1

"Before I came to SRVR, I was scared to work full-time, afraid of change, and was generally unhappy. With the support and guidance of SRVR, I feel stable and successful in my work, confident in myself, and have a more positive outlook."

Victoria Gonzales, SRVR Success

